Serial No.: New Application

REMARKS

Claims 1-33, as amended, remain herein. Claims 7-9, 19, and 30 have been amended hereby.

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted to amend the specification and claims as applicants wish them to read.

An early examination of this application on its merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

PARKHURST & WENDEL, L.L.P.

Charles A. Wendel

Registration No. 24.453

Date 2205

CAW/ch

Attorney Docket No.: MEIC:191

PARKHURST & WENDEL, L.L.P. 1421 Prince Street, Suite 210 Alexandria, Virginia 22314-2805

Telephone: (703) 739-0220